

The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 12 October 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
12 OCTOBER 1967

1. Cuba

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2. Soviet Union

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3. Congo

The mercenary evacuation plan is bogged down. Brussels is being niggardly about financing the operation, and the International Red Cross representatives seem more interested in "Swiss thoroughness" than action. Mobutu, now immersed in other matters, is apparently not aware of the almost total lack of progress.

4. Communist China

The leadership has--apparently with some success--mounted a major campaign to force rival Red Guard groups into a united front.

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Tension between Red Guard units nevertheless remains high and we think these united front groups will be fragile at best. The army, however, is taking strong measures to suppress actual fighting between rival groups.

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5. Nigeria

A new effort is under way to arrange direct peace talks in London between Biafra and the federal government. There are signs that Gowon is willing to send representatives, but Ojukwu may insist that a cease-fire precede any meeting. The apparently crumbling condition of the Biafran Army, police, and militia, however, could soon make Ojukwu less choosy.

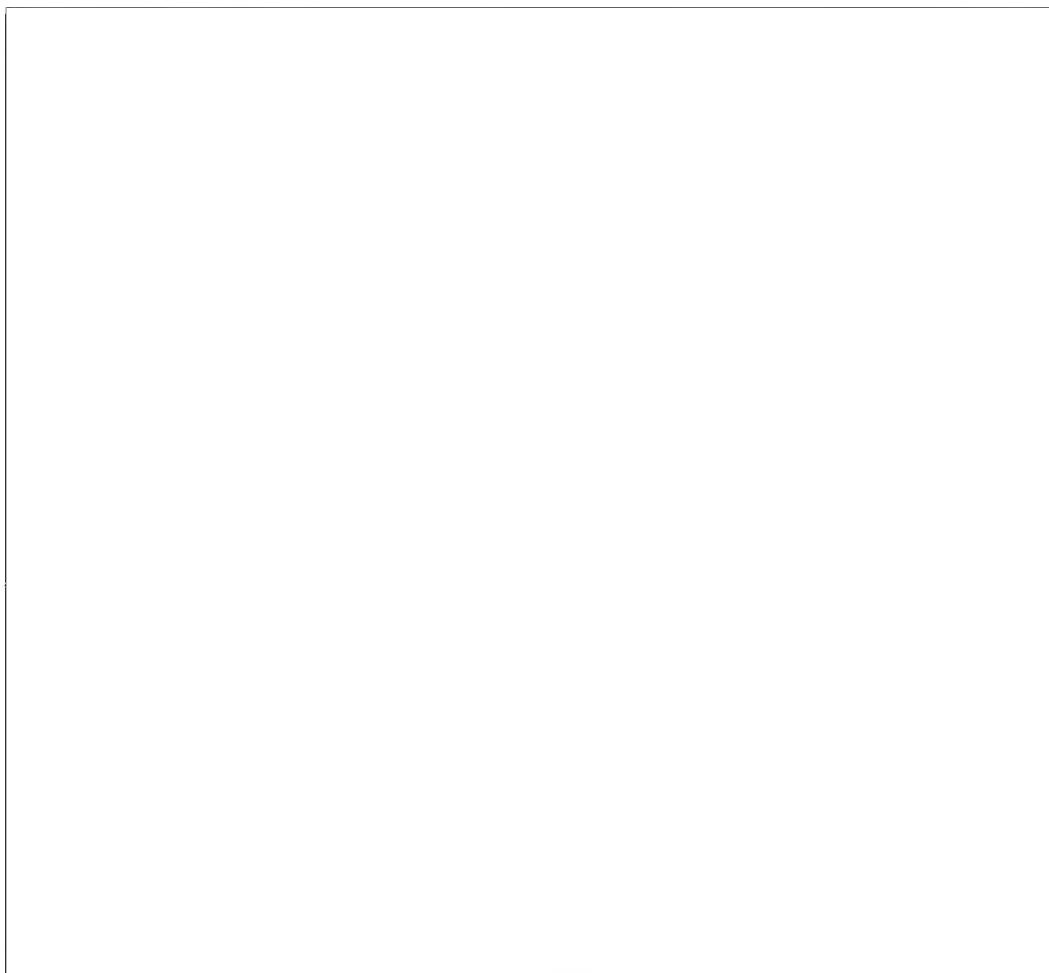
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SPECIAL DAILY REPORT ON NORTH VIETNAM

FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY



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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

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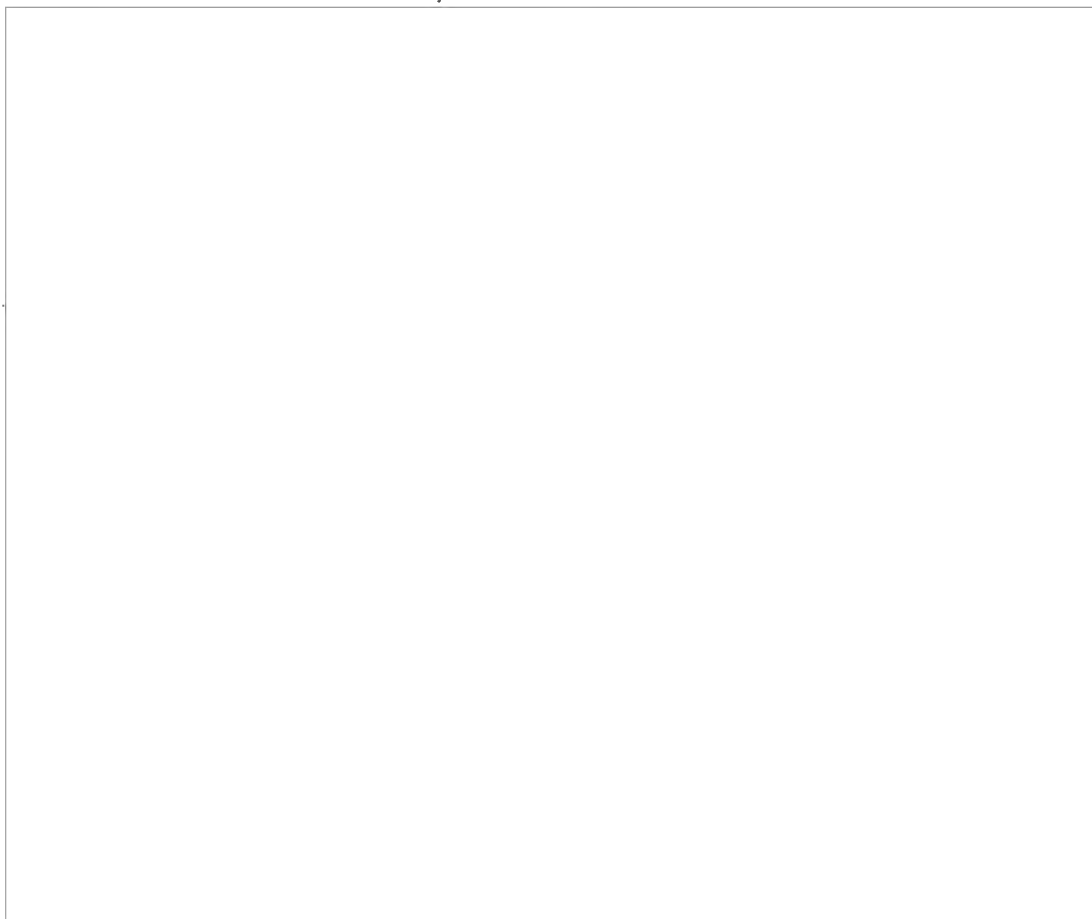
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Hanoi Claims Production Increases: Hanoi continues its efforts to show that it is providing for the country's essential economic needs, despite US bombings. North Vietnam's minister of light industry stated recently that production of consumer goods is increasing to meet the people's demands for foodstuffs, clothing, and household needs such as sauce, sugar, salt, cloth, paper and earthenware. The minister also confidently predicted that the trend would continue during the rest of the year.

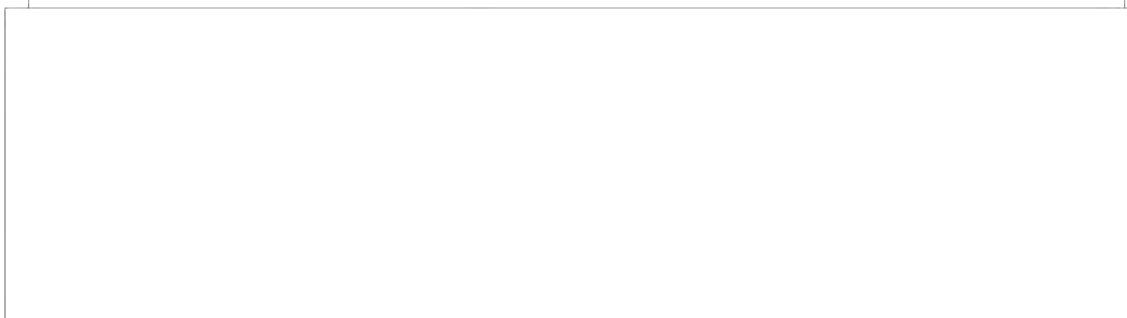
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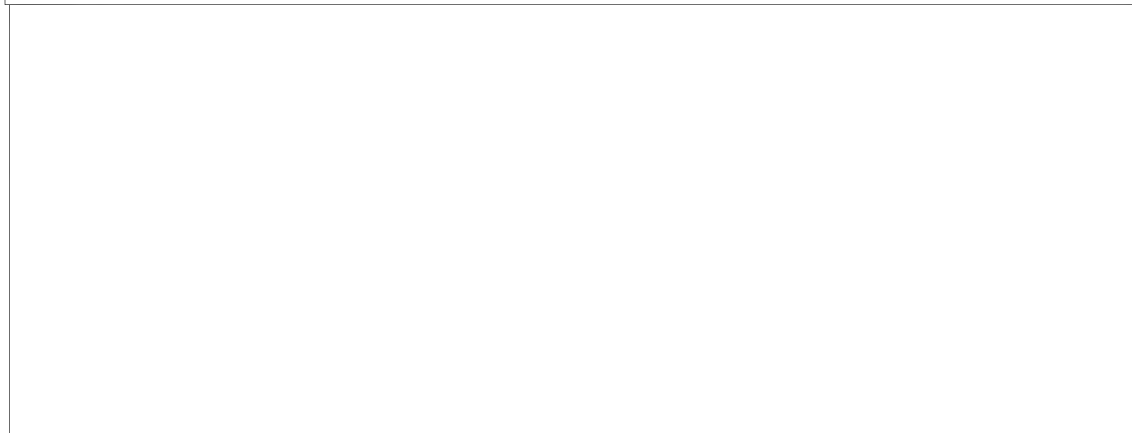
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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES TOWARD THE WAR

Hanoi on US Opposition: A roundup of antiwar activities in the US was carried by Hanoi's international news service on 11 October. It reports on the "peace torch marathon" in which a gas torch is being carried from Hiroshima, Japan, to Washington for the big antiwar demonstration planned for 21 October. It also covers a student demonstration against "the dirty war in Vietnam" which took place when Mrs. Johnson arrived in Williamstown, Massachusetts, to address the local college.

Quotes are included from a letter published in the London Times by an American professor, who condemns US bombings of North Vietnam and accuses the US of blocking "the road of national self-determination of the Vietnamese people."

The broadcast also notes briefly the 500,000-signature petition handed to Congress by the "Negotiations Now" Group, but for some reason adds that this was only half the signatures the group planned to obtain. Hanoi includes no commentary of its own.

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